

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, the Republicans in this House are continuing to delay our Nation's budget. Their leader now says it will not be ready until May, over 3 months past the legal deadline.

It is the radical Republicans in Congress who are always saying that Congress must adhere to the rules which govern everyone, until the rules pertain to them. Then, like spoiled little kids, they make their own rules to suit themselves or they will not play the game. I hope that they realize that this Republican merry-go-round must soon end. The American people do not want Republicans to play games with their lives like Republicans did when they closed down this government.

Mr. Speaker, it is high time that your party act like grownups and follow the rules. The budget submitted by the President is a balanced budget. Where is the Republican budget?

BIPARTISANSHIP AND THE BUDGET

(Mr. ROGAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, last year I had the privilege of campaigning for the U.S. Congress as a Republican from California, and in my district I made no bones in going to groups where I spoke to both Democrats and Republicans and telling them that I intended to come to Congress and work in a bipartisan fashion with the President to balance the budget.

A month ago I had the honor of sitting in this Chamber for the first time and seeing a President of the United States deliver in person a State of the Union message. In that message he told us and he told the country that he would submit and we would balance the budget. I believed the President then and I still believe that he intends to work toward that goal. But, Mr. Speaker, as we know, the budget that the President submitted to this Congress does not balance, and that fact has been made clear by the Congressional Budget Office, which is bipartisan.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday we passed a resolution calling on the President to again submit a budget to this Congress that is balanced and, Mr. Speaker, as a Republican I pledge to this House and to the country that when the President does take that action, I will work with him and work with my colleagues across the aisle to ensure that we fulfill that obligation to the American people.

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF FORMATION OF CONGRESSIONAL CHILDREN'S CAUCUS

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to say to the American people that we do care, and I am very proud to announce the formation of the Congressional Children's Caucus, comprised of Democrats and Republicans who are concerned about children, and I think one of our early charges is to ensure that our children all over America have health care.

Mr. Speaker, 1 in 7 children are uninsured. We find that 9 out of 10 children without insurance have working parents every single day.

As a local elected official, I offered to our local community the importance of preventive health care to work with our families to ensure that our children were immunized and that our children saw the kind of health care that will give them a better quality of life.

Now, according to the report issued by the Census Bureau, one-third of American children do not have private health insurance, and yesterday the Children's Defense Fund said unless action is taken now 12.6 million children will be uninsured by the year 2000.

We must have a child health care insurance, and we must ensure that we care. Let America know that we care.

BECAUSE WE ARE BEING FLOODED BY COCAINE FROM MEXICO WE MUST TAKE STRONG STEPS

(Mr. SOUDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, we have an important vote coming up today on decertification of Mexico, and this is not a battle over whether we are friends or not friends. Like it or not in Mexico and like it or not in America, we are going to have to work together like close friends have to work together, and part of working together is trying to address joint problems.

There is a feeling sometimes that we are trying, as Big Brother, to force our will on Mexico without reducing our own demand. We are working aggressively to reduce our demand. In America we have drug dogs in our schools, we are building more prisons than we ever dreamed we needed to, we have upped our treatment and our prevention budgets by 50 percent. But the reason we are doing this is an example front-page headline in Ft. Wayne last week: "I-69 Crash Linked To Cocaine And Pot."

A youngster on cocaine and marijuana flipped his car, landed on a pickup driven by another young person, which then landed on a car driven by another person, which forced it into another vehicle and veered into the median, which then hit a pile up into a sixth vehicle.

Because we are being flooded with cocaine coming in from Mexico we have to take strong steps.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH CARE SHOULD TOP OUR LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Children's Defense Fund released its annual state of America's children. The news is heartbreaking; 1 out of every 7 American children are living today without health insurance; 1 out of every 7 kids. It is a national disgrace. The vast majority of these kids live in families where one or both of their parents work. Their folks work hard and they play by the rules, but they are caught in the middle, not poor enough to qualify for Medicaid, but unable to afford private health insurance for their families.

It is time for the Republican leadership to focus on this problem. There are 10 million reasons why we must do this: For the 10 million children in this country who are living without health insurance. But we only need one, the fact that the American people are counting on us to make this world a better place for their families.

We cannot have healthy families without healthy kids. We need to address this crisis, we need to move this issue on to the top of the legislative agenda.

REPUBLICAN AGENDA DOES NOT ADDRESS THE NATION'S UNINSURED CHILDREN

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, following up on my colleague from Connecticut [Ms. DELAURO], I want to reiterate again this report that came out from the Children's Defense Fund that was in today's Washington Post. Once again there is another article in another major newspaper on the number of children in this country who do not have health insurance.

According to the General Accounting Office, this is an all time high. Not only one out of seven children, as was mentioned, do not have health insurance, but if we do not make this a top priority, we are going to have even more serious problems. The Children's Defense Fund report says that unless action is taken now 12.6 million children will be uninsured by the year 2000.

This news is only for the Republicans. Since last spring Democrats have been developing legislative plans to provide health insurance to the Nation's 10 million uninsured children, but to date there is not a single Republican plan to address this situation. Nor does it look like the GOP has any intention of giving this issue the attention it deserves. The House Republican agenda announced last week made no mention of a plan to insure the Nation's uninsured children.